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will probably serve another decade as well as Bumpus' book has served students of zoology for the past ten years.

LEONARD W. WILLIAMS

Books of Nature Study.—The American Book Company is issuing a series of "Eclectic Readers" for lower grammar school grades. These include *The Trail to the Woods*¹ by Clarence Hawkes, and *Half Hours with Mammals*,² by Charles F. Holder. The former is chiefly a collection of hunting stories. It tells of foxes who "stop a moment to consider" and who have learned to place a wounded foot in cold water "to draw out fever and pain." With the humanizing of the foxes there is a cold-blooded account of their destruction — "As the club said, 'They were just old enough to play nicely.' By seven o'clock the pelts of two of them were dangling from the pockets of lucky hunters." This is not good reading for children.

The book by Dr. Holder in some respects suggests Wood's Natural History. It is intended for intermediate grades. The student is advised not to accept the reports of "honest men and women" who impart to animals such traits as "would astonish the bear, fox and others could they read the English language"; but the author states that animal intelligence differs from human intelligence only in degree. His frequent references to his own observations, particularly of Californian animals, form a considerable part of the book. Of the gopher he says,— "I have seen my favorite carnations waving wildly as though an earthquake was shaking them. Then the stalk and flower would disappear, being hauled down into the burrow and eaten." The Reader is fully and attractively illustrated.

*Pictures from Nature's Garden*³ is an English book comparable with Bigelow's *Spirit of Nature Study*. It contains reminiscences and stories about children and butterflies, the author being very fond of both. Several of the photographic illustrations refer to mimicry and protective adaptations, which the reviewer believes are interpreted with the simplicity which led Topsy, as described on page 38, to confound frogs' eggs with tapioca pudding. To justify the child's mistake the author presents a photograph of both. After an interesting descrip-

¹ Hawkes, Clarence. *The Trail to the Woods*. New York, American Book Company, 1907. 12mo, 176 pp., illus.

² Holder, Charles F. *Half Hours with Mammals*. New York, American Book Company, 1907. 12mo, 253 pp., illus.

³ Shephard-Walwyn, H. W. *Pictures from Nature's Garden*. London, John Long, 1907. Svo, 311 pp., illus. 6 s.

tion of his butterfly-house, a green-house devoted to rearing plants and insects together, he writes as follows;— "In my younger days I myself amassed an extensive collection of butterflies and moths. . . . I have the collection still, and never look upon it without pride. Friends love to gaze upon the Scarlet Tigers, Clouded Yellows and mammoth Death's Heads; white bearded fossils come down from afar and beam upon it — but when all's said and done what else is it but a collection of corpses? Beautiful though they may be to look upon, arranged systematically with pinions outstretched upon the clean white paper — how much more beautiful to gaze upon the living form flashing its gorgeous wings in sunlight, throbbing with the exuberance of *life*!" This is a frank statement from a collector, but one which is characteristic of the times; interest is being transferred from collections to nature itself.

F. T. L.

Birds of Labrador and of the Chicago Area.— The *Birds of Labrador* are well presented by Dr. Charles W. Townsend and Glover M. Allen (*Proc. of the Boston Soc. of Nat. Hist.*, vol. 33, pp. 277–428). In the introduction the authors describe first their visit to Labrador in the summer of 1906; then the topography, the faunal areas, paths of migration, and ornithological history of the region; and finally the bird and egg destruction which in 1833 filled Audubon with "horror and disgust." "Where fishermen are numerous sea birds are very scarce" and the authors hope that "the wonderful nursery for water birds in Labrador will not be entirely depopulated but that sufficient protection for the breeding birds will be given and that speedily, before it is too late."

The introduction is followed by an annotated list of all Labrador birds, and the book concludes with a table showing the approximate number of each species observed by the authors, a bibliography, and a map. This publication (which is sold separately) will be of interest to the large number of students of local birds in eastern United States, for Labrador is the destination of many familiar migrants. It is unusually well written.

The Birds of the Chicago Area are similarly treated by Frank M. Woodruff (*Bull. 6 of the Nat. Hist. Survey, Chicago Acad. of Sci.*, 221 pp.). The introduction contains notes on the favorable localities for studying birds, their migration, the rapacity of collectors, etc. The catalogue of species brings together a large body of facts covering a long period of observation. Sometimes, however, the list of synonyms